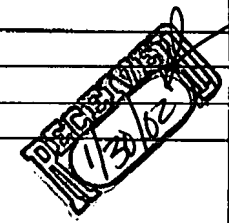


#20/K

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant and Inventor	Ho Keung, TSE.
Filing Date	07/09/98
Application Number	09/112,276
Group Art Unit	2132
Examiner	Gilberto Barron Jr.
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Official



By Airmail & Fax

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Sir,

Amendment dated 25 Jan., 2002

This amendment is basically being suggested in the telephone discussions I made with the Examiner in Jan., 2002. The Examiner has agreed that it is to be entered and it is now formally submitted with a view to eliminate any possible confusion by providing the Examiner a written copy of the oral submission.

Claims 1, 10, 12, 14, 18, 20 are amended. Claims 18, 20 is an further amendment of the claim¹⁸ 20 as submitted in "Informal Communication to Examiner Barron Date: Nov., 5, 2001".

Claim 10 as amended now defines said existing information as .."not being usable directly by said processing apparatus for said electronic commerce purpose" rather than "not in a form as for being so used by said processing apparatus" is necessary to make it consistence with the Description, sheet 10, first and second paragraphs.

Claim 18 as amended requires "first processing apparatus", because of a "second proccessing apparatus" is readable on step f) of claim 18 before this amendment.

GK to
encl
CG
8/2/02

Claims 1, 10, 12, 14, 20 as amended now define the "identity means/information" as "being capable of being used in enabling electronic commerce operation(s) for which rightful user(s) of said software desired to be protected has to be responsible". Although not explicitly indicated in the claims as amended, it should be understood therefrom that the identity means/information is capable of being used to generate information or itself being information which can be authenticated by an electronic apparatus trusted by a counterpart involved in the electronic commerce or a trusted party such as a clearing house.

~~Submitted herewith is also a full set of clean claims consolidating all previous amendment changes together with changes requested herein below, including "Informal Communication to Examiner Barron dated Nov 5, 2001".~~

Also submitted is a table showing identity of amended claims in the amendment letters filed for your easy reference.

Respectfully submitted,

Ho Keung, Tse.

